



# WFP Somalia Country Brief

March 2021



## In Numbers

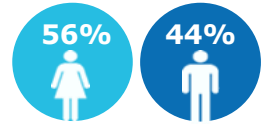
US\$ 24 million cash-based transfers made

5,322 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 143.3 million six months net funding requirements representing 45 percent of the total US\$ 315.3 million for the next six months (April-September 2021)

2.5 million people assisted

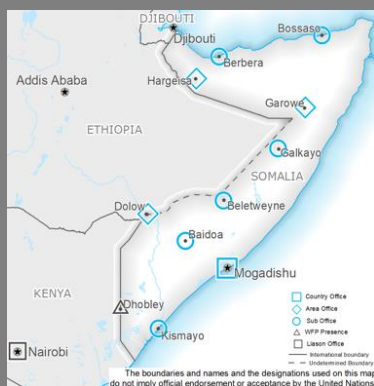
in March 2021



## Operational Context

Somalia continues to make progress to recover from underdevelopment, instability and decades of conflict since the re-establishment of the Federal Government in 2012. However, climatic shocks combined with gender inequality, protracted displacements and persistent conflict continue to exacerbate food insecurity. Inadequate water and sanitation, poor hygiene practices and chronic food insecurity are among the factors contributing to health and nutrition challenges. Furthermore, systemic problems such as limited investments, infrastructure and regulatory frameworks, as well as climate variability, limit the potential of Somalia's food systems to ensure access to and consumption of nutritious food. In response, the Government of Somalia launched the Ninth National Development Plan (NDP 9) in December 2019, laying out the national vision for sustainable development (2020-2024). In October 2020, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025) was signed, outlining the United Nations' response to the peace and development priorities of NDP 9 and its collective contribution to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of Somalia.

WFP ensures close engagement with partners through its Somalia country office in Mogadishu and 12 operational offices across Somalia.



## Operational Updates

Various parts of the country are experiencing drought-like conditions due to depressed and poor distribution of rains during the 2020 Deyr season (October-December) combined with high temperatures during the Jilal season (January-March). Communities in Togdheer, Gedo, Lower Juba among other regions are experiencing severe water shortages. Depletion of water and pasture resources have affected several other communities which could lead to high migration of livestock and communities. These climatic conditions could lead to further deterioration of the already poor food security situation – approximately 2.65 million Somalis are expected to be in Phase 3, 'Crisis', or worse under the integrated food security phase classification (IPC) – from April to June 2021, and require urgent food assistance.

In March, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to 2.5 million women, girls, men and boys in communities most affected by acute food and nutrition insecurity. The assistance included a food basket comprising of cereals, fortified vegetable oil, pulses; specialized nutritious food and/or cash-based transfers (CBT). Of these people, 665,000 were malnourished or at risk of becoming malnourished pregnant and lactating women and girls, and children aged 6-59 months who received preventative and curative nutrition assistance.

The WFP home grown school feeding (HGFS) model reached 71,000 schoolchildren in March, in WFP supported schools. The schoolchildren received hot meals prepared from diverse, nutritious and locally sourced fresh foods. The HGFS model is also bringing economic benefits to local suppliers and smallholder producers. WFP supported establishment of school kitchen gardens in 15 schools in Dolow district. These schools are growing vegetables e.g. tomatoes, onions and spinach for use in preparation of school meals.

Population: 14.3 million (NDP 9)

Internally displaced persons (IDPs): 2.9 million

People facing acute food crisis: 2.65 million (IPC 3 & above, Jan-June 2021)

National global acute malnutrition rate: 11.8 percent (serious)

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# WFP Country Strategy

## Country strategic plan (2019-2021)

Total requirement (in US\$)	Allocated contributions (in US\$)	Six-month net funding requirements (in US\$)
1.88 b	984.3 m	143.3 m

### Strategic result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic outcome 1:** Food and nutrition insecure people in areas affected by natural or human-caused disasters have access to adequate and nutritious food, and specialized nutritious foods to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of a shock.

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**

- Provision of unconditional food and/or cash-based food assistance, specialized nutritious foods and gender-transformative nutrition messaging and counselling to crisis-affected people through well-coordinated food security and logistics during humanitarian responses.

### Strategic result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic outcome 2:** Food-insecure people in targeted areas are better able to withstand shocks and stresses throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activities:**

- Provision of conditional and unconditional food and/or cash-based food assistance and nutritional messaging to food-insecure people through reliable safety nets, including school meals.
- Provision of unconditional cash transfers in rural areas to targeted poor and vulnerable households

### Strategic result 3: Achieve food security

**Strategic outcome 3:** Malnourished and food-insecure children, adolescent girls, PLWG and ART/TB-DOT clients in areas with persistently high rates of acute malnutrition have improved nutritional status throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activities:**

- Provision of specialized nutritious foods and nutrition messaging to children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and ART/TB-DOT clients to systematically treat and prevent malnutrition and to stimulate positive behaviour change.

### Strategic result 4: Sustainable food systems

**Strategic outcome 4:** National institutions, private sector actors, smallholder farmers, and food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from more resilient, inclusive and nutritious food systems by 2021.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activities:**

- Provision of services, skills, assets, and infrastructure for the rehabilitation and strengthening of food supply chains.

### Strategic result 5: Capacity Strengthening

**Strategic outcome 5:** National institutions have strengthened policies, capacities and systems for supporting food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations by 2021.

**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activities:**

- Provision of technical support for the strengthening of national policies, capacities, and systems.

### Strategic result 8: Enhance Global Partnership

**Strategic outcome 6:** The humanitarian community is better able to reach vulnerable people and respond to needs throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**

- Provision of air services for the humanitarian community
- Provision of on-demand services for the humanitarian community
- Provision of common services through the Logistics Cluster

As part of health system strengthening, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health, WFP trained 240 community health workers (CHW) in Jubaland and Banadir regions. These were trained in health and nutrition including consumption of nutritious foods and utilization of health services. The CHWs will create nutrition and health awareness in their communities while screening and referring malnourished women and children for nutrition assistance.

In February, the WFP e-Shop mobile application's home delivery services were piloted for the delivery of relief commodities to WFP's beneficiaries in Balcaad district. In March, the service was expanded to Wareshiek and El Ma'an districts. A total of 1,720 households received 77 mt of sorghum, pulses and fortified vegetable oil in the three districts. Delivering relief commodities to beneficiaries' homes is improving their access to services.

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) supported 40 partners (humanitarian community and government) by transporting 328 passengers and 101 mt of cargo to 15 locations.

In coordination with the Logistics Cluster, UNHAS supported the Federal Ministry of Health, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations to transport 300,000 doses of COVAX vaccines from the COVAX Facility to 10 locations in Somalia.

## Challenges

Security concerns continue to heighten in Somalia. Furthermore, there are political tensions generated by the election impasse as Somalia crossed the first month since failure to hold national elections on 08 February 2021.

## Funding

To continue providing lifesaving food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons, WFP is facing a critical funding shortfall of **US\$ 143.3 million** from April-September 2021.

## Donors

Canada, China, Denmark, European Commission (ECHO), Federal Government of Somalia, France, Germany USA, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia Humanitarian Fund (SHF), South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, UN CERF and United Kingdom.